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PRESIDENT ALFONSIN DEPARTS ON 6-NATION TOUR

PY101315 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1208 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 10 Jul (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today departed for New Zealand on the first leg of a 13-day tour that will include Australia, Japan, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, and Portugal.

The TC-91 presidential plane took off from Ezeiza Airport shortly after 0830. Earlier, Alfonsin delegated his presidential powers to Vice President Victor Martinez.

Alfonsin's entourage is made up of Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, Air Force Chief of Staff General Ernesto Horacio Crespo, Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz, Secretary for Foreign Industry and Trade Roberto Lavagna, and presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez. [passage omitted]

JEWISH CITIZENS' PROPERTY DEFACED IN PARANA

PY100352 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1940 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Parana, 9 Jul (NA) -- Three Jewish organizations in this city and two stores belonging to members of the Jewish community today were painted with swastikas and anti-Semitic slogans in a seemingly coordinated operation, according to a Jewish spokesman.

The Jewish Association of Parana addressed a note to the provincial government demanding a full clarification of the incidents. The note maintains that "the Nazi apparatus remains alive in Argentina through individuals who, in an organized manner, seek the dissolution of society and the failure of the democratic and republican system of government."

The note goes on to state that "recalcitrant anti-Semitism is still a threat, and the authorities have not identified those responsible for these attacks against human dignity, life, and the Jewish identity, which once again was vulgarly attacked today."

The note also states that the Jewish community of Parana, exercising its undeniable rights as a member of the Argentine family, demands the immediate clarification of the incidents and the safety of its members in the hope that the democratic forces will put a definite end to these vices of the past that are still alive.

The swastikas and slogans were painted between midnight and dawn on 9 July on the front of the Martin Ruber Jewish school; the Zionist Youth center; the Israeli Association, where the Jewish synagogue is located; and on the walls of two stores belonging to members of this community.

AIR FORCE MINISTER DEFENDS INFORMATICS POLICY

PY110038 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] Air Force Minister Otavio Moreira Lima visited Sao Paulo today. During his stay he defended the informatics reserve market and Brazilian independence in the informatics field.

General Otavio Moreira Lima said today at the Piracunnunga Air Force Academy in Sao Paulo State that the informatics reserve market is fundamental for the technological development of the Brazilian aeronautics industry. Although Gen Otavio Moreira Lima admits there is not complete independence in the field, he is categorically in favor of Brazilian development in the informatics field:

[Begin recording] We must promote the development of Brazilian industry so that we may truly achieve independence. We must achieve a certain degree of independence so that we can have peace of mind and not end up totally relying on imports.

Gen Moreira Lima presided over the ceremony presenting swords to 233 new Air Force cadets, including 4 foreigners. The ceremony was held at the Piracununga Air Force Academy in Sao Paulo. The Air Force minister explained why he defends the reserve market policy in the informatics field:

[Begin recording] It is obvious that the development of our own national technology and the reserve market is fundamental for the development of a vast interrelated national sector. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS MEAT EXPORTS INDEFINITELY

PY100354 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] The government yesterday adopted the first specific measure to partially solve the meat supply crisis: Early last night, Finance Minister Dilson Funero decided to suspend exports of both fresh and processed meat indefinitely.

Brazil exports 35,000 tons of mean monthly, totaling about 400,000 tons yearly. The decision was adopted after an assessment by the Special Secretariat for Supply and Prices and by the Foreign Trade Department. It will be in effect only until meat supplies stabilize, which should be around 22 July, when imported meat will begin arriving.

BRIEFS

NEW EMBRAER EXECUTIVE BOARD -- The new EMBRAER (Brazilian Aeronautics Company) executive board will be installed on 10 July. Its members are: administrative council president: Ozires Silva; superintendency director: Ozilio Carlos da Silva; production department director: Iraja Busch Ribas; financial department director: Adauto Ferreira da Silva; administrative director: Nelson de Jesus Parada; military program director: Brigadier Engineer Luiz Thomaz Carrilho Gomes Teixeira; industrial department director: Antonio Garcia da Silveira; technical director: Guido Fontegalante Pessotti; and commercial department director: Heitor Serra. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Jul 86 p 20 PY]

PINOCHET VISITS TALCAHUANO, CONCEPCION

Reaffirms 16-Year Mandate

PY102120 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] President Pinochet has said his government will continue beyond 1989. He added that the 1980 Constitution has set a 16-year deadline: the first 8 years to promulgate complementary laws and the other 8 years to implement them. The country has been shaken by the comments the president made today. Eliana, we must know the details of his comments. Good afternoon.

[Begin relay by reporter Eliana Henriquez] Good afternoon. Eliana Henriquez reporting from Concepcion. President Augusto Pinochet today said he will not surrender the government without a good reason.

The head of state made these comments to women's volunteer leaders gathered at a Concepcion theater during the 4th and penultimate day of his tour through this area. On this occasion, the head of state confirmed that in 1973 Chile became the first country to break the chains of communism. He also said that in the past 13 years an unending struggle has been waged and that some ambitious politicians have joined the struggle.

Pinochet said his government has no other aim but to keep out the communists, reiterating that the 1925 Constitution permitted the political parties to do whatever they pleased while the 1980 constitution established some laws concerning their activities.

The head of state warned: This will continue beyond 1989. He will not surrender the government just for the sake of doing so. He noted that some people have not understood that the Constitution established a 16-year period for the current regime.

[Begin Pinochet recording] Some people have not understood this. The Constitution is set for a 16-year period. The first 8 years are to prepare laws, that is, to promulgate laws and regulations to complement the Constitution. The following 8 years are to implement those laws. If we do not enforce the law then our Constitution will not work. The Constitution will be lost because these people will quickly make changes. If the Constitution is enforced over these 8 years, however, then the concept will be strengthened. The Constitution will be strengthened and reinforced even if it is [word indistinct]. [end recording].

Moving on, Pinochet said a terrible campaign against Chile, both domestically and abroad, has been unleashed. He said that in early July $20-bills were distributed in the poor neighborhoods. This is how they staged the stoppage on 2 and 3 July, he said, adding: They failed however, and they will continue to fail.

In conclusion the head of state referred to the youths who were intentionally burned by their captors in early July. Concerning Rodrigo Rojas de Negri, who died as a result of serious injuries, Pinochet stated that curiously enough, Rojas de Negri's overcoat was burned on the inside, which would lead one to think a bomb went off. He added: I hope that the judge will find out the truth. Do not forget, however, that when the communists do things, they do them well, General Pinochet stated.

This was a report from Concepcion by Eliana Henriquez. Good afternoon. [end relay]

Attends Military Ceremony

PY101927 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] President Pinochet has said in a speech in Talcahuano that we want a country of peace, tranquillity, and greatness for all. He added that free Chileans and the Armed Forces well defend their fatherland, whatever sacrifice is required. He called upon the citizens to show a spirit of strength and make greater sacrifices, because otherwise, he said, our children will become the slaves and victims of the sinister threat of Marxism. He added: We will never permit our Chile to become another Nicaragua or another Cuba.

President Pinochet is now in Concepcion with his wife and 14 ministers. There he has attended the solemn ceremony in which officers and conscripts of the No 6 Chacabuco Regiment of Concepcion swore the oath to the flag. During the ceremony the soldiers promised to be faithful to the fatherland. In addition, 77 youths were decorated for having distinguished themselves in various activities.

On the same occasion, Brigadier General (Helmut Kaushar), second in command of the 3d Army Division, said in his patriotic speech that those who resort to all methods to create chaos and undermine the institutions are moving toward their own destruction. But, he said, the future can be seen as being clear and brilliant with a government whose work looks toward the future. We are building a country free from totalitarian ideologies, thanks to the efforts and work of the large majority.

ACCUSED CIVIC ASSEMBLY LEADERS ARRESTED

PY110322 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Excerpts] An unusual situation developed this afternoon around the court building when an announcement was made that the 18 Civic Assembly leaders accused by the government were going to voluntarily appear before the judge. Some of those arrested were punched, kicked and teargassed by the police as they tried to peacefully enter the court building. Other members were lucky enough to voluntarily give themselves up to the judge. Most of them, however, were arrested upon leaving the Lawyers Association building in a spectacular police operation.

The police had cordoned off the court building more than 1 week ago, and the reason they did so was learned this afternoon. This morning Juan Luis Gonzales, president of the Civic Assembly, announced that the intention of the civic leaders was to appear before the judge peacefully, not as common criminals or fugitives from justice but as representatives of broad sectors of the country who have not committed any crime.

At 1500 the situation was chaotic because no one knew exactly what was happening with the Civic Assembly leaders. There was a report that one of them, the president of the National Pensioners Association, who is 80 years old, was arrested by the police at his home. A few minutes later Osvaldo Verdugo, president of the Teachers Association, appeared on Bandera Street walking toward the court building. Dozens of policemen then rushed toward him to arrest him amid punches, insults, kicks, and tear gas. [passage omitted]

While violent actions were taking place around the court building, nine of the Civic Assembly leaders who were in the Lawyers Association building were trying to leave for the court building. Before they left, the Civic Assembly president read a statement:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] I am going to make a public statement as president of the Civic Assembly. This statement is made on behalf of all the Civic Assembly members who are wanted by the Interior Ministry.

1. From the first moment we learned of the charges against us, we intended to voluntarily present ourselves before Judge German Valenzuela Erazo.

2. In an inexplicable development, we have been prevented free access to the court despite the repeated requests we have made. This is well known by the people who can verify our position.

3. Under these circumstances we have decided to go to the court and present ourselves to the judge at the risk of being arrested by the police because we have nothing to hide, because we are going to the court with clean hands, heads held high, and with the assurance of the support of the majority of the citizens.

4. For us this is a time of happiness and emotion. [end recording]

The large number of plainclothes policemen with warrants for the arrest of the Civic Assembly leaders prevented them from leaving the building. An investigative police officer entered the building and reached an agreement with the leaders, who were going to surrender to the police on Ahumada Avenue. The agreement was of no use because they were attacked by uniformed and plainclothes policemen, who violently pushed them into police vehicles parked on the avenue. The incident occured as people supporting the leaders sang the national anthem. [passage omitted]

Those arrested are: Juan Luiz Gonzalez, Angel Maulen, Juan Carlos Latorre, Patricio Basso, Francisco Rivas, Eugenio Leon, Maria Antonieta Saa, Jorge (Pavet), and Jose Santos (Millao), who was wearing his Indian clothes. Lautaro (Lave) was arrested 1 block from the court building as he got out of a cab. He said: I am here to give myself up, but before he even finished his words, dozens of detectives jumped on him and arrested him. Andres Rengifo, Soledad Larrain, and Ignacio Balvontin were able to enter the court to join Osvaldo Verdugo in the court's guardhouse, where they waited to be called by Judge Valenzuela. Three of the 18 accused Civic Assembly leaders either did not shown up or have been arrested. They are Eduardo Valencia, Hector (Molla), and Marta Luisa (Traique). [passage omitted]

Judge Valenzuela pointed out that he is going to interrogate all those arrested and will then decide their fate. Osvaldo Verdugo, president of the Teachers Association, was released a few minutes ago by Judge German Valenzuela Erazo because so far there is no warrant for his arrest. [passage omitted]

Verdugo said the judge did not interrogate him because apparently the judge has not yet received the additional charges made by the Interior Ministry.

RIGHTS COMMISSION VIEWS CASE OF BURNED STUDENT

PY101834 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] The Human Rights Advisory Commission has very strongly condemned the crimnal acts that led to the death of the youth Rodrigo Rojas de Negri and caused serious injuries student Carmen Gloria Quintana. This was announced to the press by Carlos Varas, secretary of the organization, which was recently created by the Interior Ministry. He reported the members of the Commission will cooperate closely and have decided to condemn the act. Varas said the decision was made at the request of the Interior Ministry.

[Begin Varas recording] The Commission has decided to strongly condemn criminal acts like that which caused the death of a young man the very serious injuries to a young woman. These acts show extreme cruelty and violate the most basic human rights.

The Commission also agrees to cooperate closely and decisively in any way that can lead to the total clarification of the events, which are being investigated by the judge appointed to the case, and asks for the strongest punishment under the law. The Commission will take a particular interest in any petition the judge may make in this case. [end recording]

Although the Human Rights Commission is not a court and has no executive powers, it has agreed to meet with Judge Sergio Echevarria, who is investigating the case. In this way, the Commission intends to cooperate in the clarification of the controversial case.

CARABINEROS ANNOUNCE PROMOTIONS, RETIREMENTS

PY102146 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1725 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] Santiago, 10 Jul (EFE) -- General Oscar Torres will replace General Juan Alegria Valdes as deputy director of the Chilean Carabineos force. Gen Alegria has been appointed Chilean ambassador to Costa Rica.

An official communique released by the Carabineros Press Office states that "because of this promotion and because they have completed the required number of years of service, the following Carabinero officers will go into retirement: Hector Insulza, Osvaldo Arriagada, and Victor Vargas Contreras."

The communique also says that the following generals will be promoted to the rank of inspector general: Claudio Calderon, Jorge Portilla, Pedro Casanueva, and Leonidas Venegas.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPLORES NICARAGUAN ACTIONS

PA101354 Paris AFP in Spanish 2037 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jul (AFP) -- Colombia criticized the Sandinist government for its position on the Central American conflict today, saying it obstructs the Contadora Group's efforts.

Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez specifically mentioned the closure of the newspaper LA PRENSA, the prevention of Monsignor Carballo's return to Managua, and the recent expulsion of Juigalpa Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, vice president of the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua, from the countrty.

Criticizing the Managua regime's decisions, Ramirez said: "These decisions do not contribute to regional detente and make difficult the peace efforts exerted by Contadora (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela)."

The Colombian foreign minister asserted that the Sandinist government's behavior runs counter to the pledge made with the signing of the document of objectives, and to the spirit of the document for peace and cooperation in Central America, which was proposed by the Contadora Group but is yet to be signed.

Ramirez specifically deplored the closure of LA PRENSA, "the only independent newspaper in that country," he satated.

AUTHORITIES SEIZE U.S., PANAMANIAN BOATS

PA090346 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0315 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Monteria (Colombia), 8 Jul (EFE) -- The Colombian Navy today seized a Panamanian-flag boat and two U.S.-flag boats that were caught fishing without a license in Colombian territorial waters.

The Natural Resources Division of Cordoba Department, 700 km northwest of Bogota, reported that the U.S. boats "Coral Mae" and "Panamericana" and the Panamanian boat "Calypso III" were seized.

The three boats were discovered fishing in a nature reserve zone near the towns of San Bernardo del Viento, San Antero, and Monitos (Cordoba), close to the Panamanian border.

The boats and crew, whose names were not revealed, were taken to the naval base in Covenas, where they were interrogated and notified that they had violated natural resources laws.

GOVERNMENT FORCES KILL 36 SHINING PATH TERRORISTS

PY100330 Paris AFP in Spanish 0013 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] Lima, 9 Jul (AFP) -- The military high command reported in Lima today that government forces have killed 36 Shining Path terrorists during clashes in Ayacucho Department.

The military report also says a soldier was killed during clashes on 4 and 7 July in La Mar Province.

The first battle between an Army patrol and terrorists occurred on 4 July in the Chihua area; 28 terrorists and a soldier named Zelu Zulla were killed. After the clash, the government forces seized weapons and homemade bombs.

Two more clashes occurred on 7 July in the areas of Lagos and Chancavani in northern Ayacucho, where eight terrorists were killed, food supplies and propaganda material were destroyed, and homemade bombs were seized.

The Armed Forces Joint Command reported that 207 Shining Path terrorists have been killed since late March 1986 in clashes with government forces in Ayacucho, Huanuco, and Puna Deparments.

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS ARREST OF TERRORISTS

PY090339 Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Lima, 8 Jul (AFP) -- Interior Minister Abel Salinas today reported that in the past 20 days the police have captured 35 terrorists in raids in Lima and in the Andean Department on Pasco.

Salinas said that among the detainees are 8 members of the Tupac Army Revolutionary Movement and 27 Shining Path members, among whom are 4 members of an assassination squad charged with the selective killings perpetrated by this Maoist organization.

Rogelio Garcia, another Shining Path member, was arrested at noon today following an attack against the Soviet Embassy. Another terrorist who was identified as Saul Beteta, died during the attack.

GOVERNMENT RESCHEDULES PART OF FOREIGN DEBT

PY110236 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Jul 86

[Excerpt] The Uruguayan Government and approximately 100 foreign banks today signed an agreement rescheduling approximately $1.7 billion of Uruguay's foreign debt. This represents a little less than a third of the Uruguay's $4.9 billion foreign debt.

A press report datelined New York says that agreement, at an interest rate 1 and 3/8 percent higher than the Libor [London Interbank Offer Rate], which is now approximately 7 percent, will represent an annual expenditure of 20 percent of Uruguay's exports. In 1985 export amounted to $900 million.

Economy Minister Ricardo Servino admitted that servicing the foreign debt presents a heavy burden for the Uruguayan economy, but he noted that no one can pay back a large debt comfortably. Servino said the Uruguayan Government considers the agreement with the foreign creditor banks perfectly compatible with the Uruguayan economic growth program.

The rescheduling of the foreign debt has granted Uruguay a 12-year term to pay back the principal of the debts covered by the agreements through 1988. Servino admitted, however, that this concession is almost irrelevant because not even the creditors except to recover the principal. According to the minister, the important thing is to be up to date in the amortization of the interest.

Along with a $90-million loan signed with the World Bank and the foreign banking sector to finance a project for the distribution of energy, the rescheduling of the foreign debt forms part of a financial package agreed upon last year by the Uruguayan Government and the IMF within the framework of what Servino called a growth adjustment program.

The minister asserted that events show that this objective is possible, noting that during the second half of 1985 the Uruguayan economy grew by 2.5 percent.

The economy minister said that during the first 4 months of 1985, Uruguayan exports increased by approximately 27 percent compared to the same period in 1984. He said this process is continuing. [passage omitted]

GUATEMALA

CEREZO ON SECURITY POLICY, NEW REPUBLIC ARTICLE

PA101650 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] At a news conference held this afternoon, President Vinicio Cerezo announced that the internal security policy will be reorganized soon. This will be done jointly with the government and defense ministers in order to straighten out the country's security system and put it under strict control. Cerezo made this and other remarks while commenting on a report by U.S. journalists describing the operation of the G-2 as the Army's intelligence and repression apparatus.

Referring to the article, "The Bureaucracy of Death," published in the NEW REPUBLIC and written by (Allan Marin) and (Jean Marie Simmons), Cerezo said that the information used is from the 1960 - 1985 era, and that these cases are not occurring now because he holds power and issues orders in Guatemala. He noted that he will exercise power during the 5 years of his term and that no one, neither military officers nor commentators, will tell him how to exercise it.

Cerezo said the Army officers mentioned in the article no longer hold top Army intelligence positions. Perhaps, he said, they hold lower positions or simply no longer work for the government because his administration has been already assembled.

He said the article, which has been highlighted recently, does tell the truth, but it also includes erroneous information. In addition, he said the army has given him full support and carries out his orders.

CEREZO SAYS CONSULAR TIES WITH UK IMMINENT

PA101639 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] President Vinicio Cerezo has said that Guatemala's consular relations with the United Kingdom will be resumed soon. He said that the confirmation of this fait accompli will be announced immediately because the people must be kept informed about the new and beneficial relations their government maintains. The resumption of ties with the United Kingdom was announced early in May, but it will not be finalized until contacts are completed. Diplomatic relations will be established later on, he said.

As is known, Guatemala broke relations with the United Kingdom many years ago when the conflict over Belize deteriorated. However, the government now stresses that the Belize problem will not interfere in the good relations with the United Kingdom because the intention is to find a peaceful and political solution for the Belize conflict.

Four deputies of the National Congress left for London early this week to make final arrangements to establish a British consulate in Guatemala soon.

HONDURAS

TIEMPO COMMENTS ON U.S. ENVOY'S DISMISSAL

PA101410 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Jul 86 p 6

[Editorial: "The Consequences of Ambassador Ferch's Dismissal"]

[Text] The dismissal of U.S. Ambassador John Arthur Ferch has promoted much speculation. This is to be expected not only because the procedure was unusual and untimely, but also because to Hondurans, this is the first time such an incident has taken place.

The replacement of U.S. ambassadors to Honduras is very important to our nation, considering our country's traditional and now galloping dependence on the United States. For various historical, political, economic, and even cultural reasons, in the majority of the cases -- unfortunately -- "Washington's clock sets the time in Honduras," as former President Ramon Villeda Morales once said.

Hondurans' surprise over the rude dismissal of Ambassador Ferch -- a career diplomat and an expert in economic matters -- has many consequences which are clear to see: 1) it shows the great contradiction that exists in the policies of the Ronald Reagan administration toward Central America between a view that is inflexible and fanatical and a view that is understanding of the region's situation; 2) it makes an increased involvement in Nicaragua from Honduras highly possible; 3) it shows that the Reagan administration has no interest in Honduras' economic and social development, other than its usefulness as a platform of aggression against our neighbors; and 4) it points to a greater meddling in this country's domestic affairs.

Therefore, the departure of Ambassador Ferch -- known for his interest in helping to solve Honduras' economic problems as the cornerstone of his actions, a task which he efficiently performed on the basis of the interests of Hondurans -- leads to the conclusion that this will not be the mission of the new U.S. ambassador, according to Washington. His mission will be to corner Nicaragua from Honduras, to show coldness and determination in the war of his contras, and to not care about Hondurans' economic and social development.

The matter becomes clearer when instead of focusing on the palace intrigue against Ferch, we take an overall look at what has been happening to those in charge of implementing U.S. policies toward Central America.

Let us recall how Thomas Enders, deputy assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, who was transferred as ambassador to Spain for preferring dialogue over military escalation in Central America, was dropped.

Let us recall what happened to Mr Reagan's roving ambassadors to Central America. First there was Richard Stone and later Harry Shlaudeman. After getting acquainted with the Central American situation, they showed a greater understanding of what is happening here, and therefore understood that the best solution is a negotiated solution.

Recently, Ambassador Philip Habib ("the beloved", which is what Habib means in Arabic) began as a superman with alleged spectacular successes in the Middle East and the Philippines. Later on, he was practically disavowed when he sent a letter to a group of U.S. congressmen, commenting on the talks in terms that truly correspond to the Central American situation.

Since then, Ambassador Habib has not said a word and has not returned to Central America. Before, every time aid to the contras was approved, Mr Habib would fly from Washington to this region and even to the Southern Cone. Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, whose actions and appearance are those of a hawk, is now making the trips.

Therefore, it becomes more understandable why Ambassador Ferch, an economist interested in Honduras, economic affairs -- which are the genuine problems that must be combated to avoid subversion and social instability -- was dropped.

Also, it is to be expected that the replacement for Ambassador Ferch, a person who managed to gain the affection of Hondurans who knew him well, will have the necessary credentials to have better luck with the intransigent and clouded senior staff of the Reagan administration.

NICARAGUA

RAMIREZ DISCUSSES AID, ECONOMY, CONTRAS

PY110208 Santiago CAUCE in Spanish 1-7 Jul 86 pp 41-43

[Report on interview with Vice President Sergio Ramirez by Victor Vio and Hernan Gutierrez in Strasbourg, France -- date not given]

[Excerpt] In Managua and the rest of Nicaragua, a revolution is under way; a revolution that cannot rest on its laurels.

This nation, which is shaping its present and future, confronts not only the burdensome inheritance of spectacular social and economic costs but also a counterrevolution by those who see a real threat to the success of the Sandinists.

Washington believes that Nicaragua is a dangerous domino that may push other countries into the same revolutionary trend.

This is the framework which has led the Reagan administration to stop making loans to Nicaragua.

Nevertheless, there are other countries helping the Sandinist revolution.

Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado told CAUCE in Strasbourg that "25 percent of the economic aid we receive comes from Western Europe; 35 percent comes from countries in Latin America, ruled by parties that are members of the Socialist International [SI]; 25 percent comes from Eastern European countries; and the rest comes from other international sources."

He added that "this year the Nicaraguan budget will be about $600 million to be raised from national sources. It will be obtained through a complex process which will allow us to obtain these resources from the different sources I have previously mentioned. But I cannot say I am happy with the total aid we receive from European countries and from those Latin American countries that have governments linked to the SI."

Ramirez said, "I have just been to Norway. As a result of my visit there, the Norwegian prime minister has announced that Norway will increase its aid to Nicaragua by 10 million kroner. The prime minister will also propose to the Norwegian Congress to place Nicaragua in a massive-aid list. No other Latin American country enjoys this status."

Regarding the Spanish socialist government headed by Felipe Gonzalez, the Nicaraguan vice president told CAUCE: "We recently received important economic aid from Spain consisting of a $27-million credit that we are intensely using at this time to meet the basic needs of the country. My talks with Felipe Gonzalez were positive, as were those I held with Spanish Vice President Alfonso Guerra." [passage omitted]

ORTEGA SENDS CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF LE DUAN

PA110426 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 11 Jul 86

[Message from President Daniel Ortega to the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, dated 10 July in Managua -- read by Maribel de Rosas, press official from the presidency of the Republic -- live]

[Text] Managua, 10 July, 1986

25 years later, all weapons against aggression.

Comrades of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party [CPV],

Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the FSLN National Directorate and the Nicaraguan Government and people, allow me to convey our deep sorrow for the death of our dear Comrade Le Duan, secretary general of the Vietnamese Communist Party. With his death, the CPV and [words indistinct] and all the international revolutionary movements have lost one of the historical forgers and builders of national liberation and of economic and social progress in southeast Asia; and one of the foremost strugglers for peace and solidarity among peoples.

While still young, Comrade Le Duan engaged in a struggle for a free and revolutionary Vietnam and sought to break the chains of colonialism and imperialism and to make an independent and more beautiful Vietnam, as Chairman Ho Chi Minh wanted. The enemy's persecution, tortures, and dungeons were never able to break his spirit as a fighter and his dignity as a citizen who is aware of the country's problems. Sandinist Nicaragua, which deeply appreciates the heroism, courage, and audacity of the Vietnamese people and their vanguard, the CPV, which has assimilated great lessons during the anti-imperialist resistance, lowers its flags for the death of such an unforgettable leader.

Fraternally,
Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENTS PARTIALLY SUSPENDED

PA101814 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1736 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] Havana, 10 Jul (REUTER) -- Diplomatic sources reported today that Cuba has begun a partial suspension of payments on its $3.5 million foreign debt, which it had originally planned to implement 2 months ago.

Cuba informed its foreign creditors in April that it would suspend payment of principal and interest on its financial debt effective 5 May while an important restructuring was being negotiated, although it would continue to make payments on the principal and interest of its short-term commercial debt.

SUGAR MINISTER MEETS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS

FL101232 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jul 86

[Text] Cuban Sugar Industry Minister Antonio Rodriguez Maurell has met in Moscow with Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Cooperation, with whom he examined the current 5-year plan.

The Cuban minister also mete with Nikolay Vasilyev, Soviet minister of land reclamation and water resources, and with Sergey Afanasyev, minister of heavy and transport machine building.

RISQUET MEETS WALID JUNBLATT IN LEBANON

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[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, party Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat member, has met with a delegation of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party headed by its president, Walid Junblatt. In the fraternal conversations, the Lebanese leader provided a broad explanation of the complex and difficult situation of his country, which has been and continues to be the object of Zionist aggression. He also referred to the plans of imperialism and reaction to turn Lebanon into a base for their policy of domination and intervention.